

Malvern Wells Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the **Environment Committee** duly convened and held in The Committee Room of Malvern Wells Village Hall- commencing at 7.30 pm on **Thursday, 7th January, 2016**

Present: N Nimmo- Smith, P Stanier, R Winterton, P Buchanan, R Hayes, M Millen

In Attendance: D Taverner (Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer)

Apologies for absence: P Clement, S Atwell, J Smethurst and S Maund (Parish Lengthsman)

1 Appointment of a Chairman for the Meeting

It was agreed that Norman Nimmo- Smith should Chair the meeting.

2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 8th October, 2015, having been previously circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of that meeting.

3 Matters arising from the Minutes

Issues regarding the use of private footpaths by walkers on the Worcestershire Golf Course had been amicably resolved.

4 Report of the Parish Paths Warden

Norman Nimmo Smith presented the following report: -

Footpath MW511 – following a discussion with the landowner, Norman had removed some old, redundant fencing and brambles along two sections of the path. Barbed wire and the old fencing were due to be disposed of by the landowner. A branch, which had fallen blocking the path, had been removed by the Parish Lengthsman.

Footpath MW518 – the finger post at the footpath's junction with MW522 had been replaced. Pam and Richard had kindly helped with the installation.

Footpath MW548 – two stiles on this path are rather dilapidated and need replacing. The landowner (Mr Kingsley Morris of Brick Barns Farm) has agreed that one of them can be replaced by a metal gate, which is clearly a bonus for walkers. The County Council had provided the owner of Brick Barns Farm with one new stile and a replacement gate. The new equipment had not yet been installed as yet. The Clerk advised that he would ask Steve Maund to complete the work.

Bridleway MW550 – behind The Crescent. Several Dead saplings and brambles had fallen across the path. These had been causing an obstruction and had now been cleared.

Bridleway MW551 A fallen tree which had been blocking the bridleway had now been removed by the Parish Lengthsman

Michael Jupe had stood down from his role as an assistant parish paths warden and the responsibility for the paths looked after by him would be reallocated.

The replacement for Tracy Sutton, our previous Area Officer from the Countryside Service, has not yet been appointed. Amanda Hill will remain our point of contact at the County Council

6 Review of public rights of way in the care of each member of the Committee

All the footpaths were extremely wet following the recent heavy rainfall. Action had been undertaken to clear slippery leaves from steps on some of the paths.

Peter Clement had reported that a fallen tree was blocking the path on MW526.

The Clerk was asked to re-issue the list of paths being looked after by the individual path wardens once the reallocation of paths to Jackie Smethurst and Steve Atwell had been undertaken.

7 Date of the next meeting

It was agreed that the date of the next meeting of the Committee would take place on Thursday 7th July, 2016.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.10 pm

Approved Chairman -----
Dated 7th July, 2016